## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Michael Affolter et al.

Appl. No.: 09/936,367

Conf. No.: 4325 Filed: January 23, 2002

Title: EXPRESSION OF PROTEOLYTIC ENZYMES IN KOJI MOLD IN THE

PRESENCE OF CARBON SOURCES

Art Unit: 1656

Examiner: Chih Min Kam Docket No : 112843-029

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT TRANSMITTAL LETTER

Sir:

Submitted herewith is an Information Disclosure Statement for consideration in the above-identified application. In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 37 C.F.R. 1.97, and 37 C.F.R. 1.98, Applicants request that a citation and examination of the references cited on the enclosed PTO-1449 from be made during the course of examination of the above-identified application for United States patent. Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.98, copies of any cited foreign natent documents and non-natent documents are enclosed.

This Information Disclosure Statement is submitted:

- [] Within three months of filing of a national application; within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in an international application; before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office Action after the filing of a Request for Continued Examination.
- [X] After the period specified above, but before the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application and is accompanied by one of:
  - [X] Payment of the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p); or
  - The certification specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) follows.
- [] After the mailing date of a Final Action under 37 CFR 1.113, a Notice of Allowance under 37 CFR 1.311, or an Action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application and is accompanied by the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p) and the certification specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e) follows.

- The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies each item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.
- [] The undersigned counsel for applicant(s) hereby certifies that no item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the undersigned, after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the accompanying Information Disclosure Statement was known to any individual designated in 37 CPR 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the Information Disclosure Statement.
- [X] A copy of a Search Report from a corresponding foreign patent application is enclosed.
- [ ] A check in the amount of \$180 to cover the required fee is enclosed.
- [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the amount of \$180 to cover the required fee to Deposit Account No. 02-1818.
- [X] The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-1818.

Respectfully submitted,

BELL, BOYD-&-LDOYD LLC

Robert M. Barrett Reg. No. 30,142 Customer No. 24573

Dated: December 19, 2006